

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 047763-1617-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
)	
Roger READ, <i>et al.</i>)	
)	
Application No.: 09/673,305)	Group Art Unit: 1625
)	
Filed: March 19, 2001)	Examiner: Robinson, Binta M.
)	
For: PRODUCTION OF FURANONES)	

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

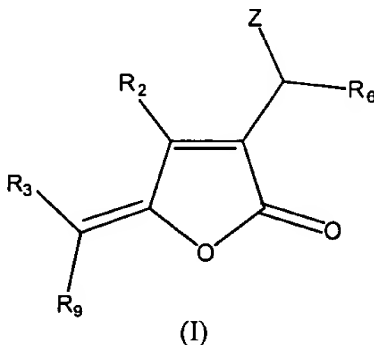
AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the non-final Office Action dated March 25, 2003, Applicants request reconsideration of this application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

AMENDMENT

Please amend claims 1, 2 and 6 as follows:

1. (thrice amended) A compound according to formula (I):



wherein R_6 is H, OH, alkyl, alkoxy, oxoalkyl, alkenyl, aryl or arylalkyl;

R_2 and R_3 are independently or both H or halogen;

R_9 is halogen;

Z is independently selected from R_6 , halogen, $OC(O)R_6$, $=O$, amine, azide, thiol,